

AUGUST

Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 3

9:30 am Worship/Communion

Monday, August 4

1:00 pm Preschool Committee

6:30 pm Fellowship Committee

Tuesday, August 5

Wednesday, August 6

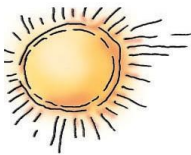
Thursday, August 7

7:30 pm NA

Friday, August 8

Saturday, August 9

11:00 am Paul Vogel Memorial



MESSIAH MESSENGER USPS 342-060

Published each week by Messiah Lutheran Church, 324 South Howard Street, South Williamsport, PA. Publication Office, 324 South Howard Street. Entered as a periodical October 15, 1940, at the Post Office at Williamsport, PA under the Act of March 3, 1879.

**POSTMASTER: Send address change to Messiah Lutheran Church,
324 South Howard Street, South Williamsport, PA 17702.**



MESSIAH MESSENGER

Published weekly by

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.messiahsouth.org Phone: 570-326-9171

e-mail address: messiahoffice@comcast.net

July 30, 2025

VOL. 83 – NO. 30

Summertime Slumber

June 21st, 2024 / [Mike Jantzen](#)

“When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name.”

- DEUTERONOMY 6:10-13

I love summer! It feels like an extended Sabbath — a time to step back from the business and take time to rest. But there’s a problem: I’ve found that more fun, more adventures, and more leisure doesn’t always lead to more prayer. I can get caught up in the summer moments and forget about God. My favorite time of year can lull me into a spiritual slumber.

On a walk through our neighborhood’s green space, I noticed an invasive species growing beside the path. The Giant Hogweed, already about three feet tall, looked innocent enough, but its poisonous sap can cause burns that leave scarring for years. An unaware child or jogger could easily brush up against it and suffer terribly.

The season of summer fun and recreation is not without its dangers. It can be fertile soil for certain vices that poison our relationship with God: neglect of prayer, an attitude of self-sufficiency, worshiping recreation instead of the Creator. If allowed to grow, these vices will lead to spiritual apathy.

It's OK to enjoy the extra leisure this summer, but remember to pray, turning each enjoyable moment into worship. How do we do that? It’s simple; when something brings a smile to our face we just pray, **“God, thank you so much for this!”** Let’s keep Jesus the center this summer and **“serve him only”** even when life feels good and carefree (Deuteronomy 6:13). Then this summer truly will be full of pleasure, the way God intended it.

Father, thank You for creating a wonderful world for us to enjoy this summer season. Please help me keep You at the center of all of my activities through offering thanksgiving. Amen.

Go Deeper — Bring God into the center of your recreation. Before and after your next fun activity, offer up thanks to God. Also, ask Him to help you connect with someone with whom you could start to model Christ and share Him.

August 3, 2025

Service Assistants

Ushers: Charles Luppert, Larry and Donna Britton, Rhonda Koch, Sylvia McCarty, Larry Solomon; **Lay Assistant:** Susan Bryan; **Communion Assistant:** Georgette Copp
Acolyte: Doriann Morris; **Altar Guild:** Jody Fullmer, Jeannie Bower
Greeters/Presenters: Don and Mary Ellen Rosenbaum; **Cantor:** Dave Bausinger
Flower Delivery: Paul Weaver



Sunday, July 27, 2025: Attendance: *In Church: 72; Online: 7*; Offering: **\$1,907.00**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my daughter, Susan, on her birthday, August 9th, by Sylvia McCarty.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Helen Fila on the anniversary of her birthday, August 7th, by her husband, Carl and family.

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, August 3: *Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21*

Monday, August 4: *Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 2:1-17; Colossians 3:18-41*

Tuesday, August 5: *Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:8; Colossians 4:2-6*

Wednesday, August 6: *Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13-14; Luke 12:22-31*

Thursday, August 7: *Psalm 33:12-22; Job 21:1-16; Romans 9:1-9*

Friday, August 8: *Psalm 33:12-22; Ecclesiastes 6:1-6; Acts 7:1-8*

Saturday, August 9: *Psalm 33:12-22; Genesis 11:27-32; Matthew 6:19-24*



Pastoral Care Number: Please call (570) 326-9171. (Available 24 hours a day) During work hours the office staff will assist you. After hours, please press "3" for a Pastoral Emergency to be connected directly to the Pastor.

Reminder: Articles for the Messenger and Bulletin are due in the office by Monday at noon.



Lutheran World Relief

SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS ITEMS WE ARE COLLECTING

and how many of each are needed per pack:

70-page spiral notebooks (*wide ruled or college ruled*) x **4** per backpack

#2 pencils – must be **UN-sharpened!** x **5** per backpack

Black or blue stick (*not click*) **ink pens** (*NO gel ink*) x **5** per backpack

Blunt safety scissors x **1** per backpack

24-pack crayons (*any brand – basic colors*) x **1** per backpack

2 ½” erasers – *We have enough of these at this time ... Thank you!*

Monetary donations welcome, too!

The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children's book - **Grandpa is there a Heaven?** - When children ask questions about this sensitive subject, pull them onto your lap and read them this gentle book. Full of important questions and answers, this book explains the compassion and beauty of God's plan for His people through Jesus, and how the Bible tells us it's true. Jesus is real. He's alive today. He's preparing a place for His people. And it's called heaven. This book is found in the children's section of the library.

Youth book - **You ask about...Faith - questions Teens are asking** - When you ask questions about faith, it's because the answers you find affect your life for all eternity. With questions like these, you want to be certain the answers are correct. This book contains a bunch of questions and answers; it has its limits--there are a lot of questions that don't get answered here. But here's the beset reason to read this book -- the answers are true. They are true because they follow God's Word, and it's the final authority. The book can be found in the Youth section of our Library.



School Supply Kits Collection for Lutheran World Relief

WOWZA! We have enough supplies to fill 380 backpacks at this time ... well, *almost!* We are short on pencils and scissors to fill that number, but we do have the cash to purchase those.

Nothing about this project is a perfect science and the only predictable thing about it is that it is unpredictable! It's always a judgement call on our part on when/how to spend the money ... *What supplies will come in? How long will the current sale prices last? What might go on sale next?* So we spend the cash donations very judiciously.

Epecially needed at this time: **safety scissors, UN-sharpened pencils** are needed to even out the piles. We also still need **black or blue stick pens** and **70-page spiral notebooks**. (Staples, WalMart, & Target all have these for the same price at this time – we love options!) Crayons are still needed but we are a bit ahead on those, so not as many are needed.

Please note: *We have almost enough erasers to fill 800 packs.* *If you already purchased erasers, please do bring them in, but there is no need to purchase more at this time.*

Monetary donations are welcome! We can shop the local deals with our tax-exempt status to save money, and we can get great deals online when we shop in bulk and buy enough to get free shipping. Make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church with LWR School Kits in the memo line. Cash should be placed in an envelope marked LWR School Kits.

Items may be placed in the schoolhouse in the narthex now through August 17.

Questions? Call Sally at (570) 547-6193 or call/text Kathy at (570) 651-2802
To all who have donated or volunteered, thank you for heeding the call!
The Spirit is truly at work here!

